AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

1. (previously presented): An optical scanning apparatus adapted to perform parallel scanning with a plurality of beams on an image recording medium at predetermined pitches, said apparatus comprising:

two semiconductor laser light sources each including a plurality of light emitting devices arranged in a line at equal intervals;

a beam scanner;

a beam converging unit disposed between the laser light sources and the beam scanner for converging the light beams onto the surface of the beam scanner; and

a controller for individually controlling an inclination angle of an arrangement direction of said light emitting devices of each of said semiconductor laser light sources with respect to a beam scanning direction,

wherein said inclination angle of each of said semiconductor laser light sources is detected and controlled so that all beam intervals on a scanning surface are kept in a predetermined equal value, during recording operation.

2. (currently amended): The optical scanning apparatus according to claim 1, wherein said controller includes a detecting means for detecting a shift in time interval between moments, at which at least two reference beams from each of said light sources pass a photo-detector provided in the vicinity of a beam scanning start position, and adjusting means for adjusting the

~~incline~~ inclination angle for each of said light sources respectively, depending on said shift in time interval.

3. (currently amended): An optical scanning apparatus adapted to perform parallel scanning with a plurality of beams on an image recording medium, said apparatus comprising:

two semiconductor laser light sources each including a plurality of light emitting devices arranged in a line at equal intervals;

a beam scanner;

a beam converging unit disposed between the laser light sources and the beam scanner for converging the light beams onto the surface of the beam scanner; and

a controller for controlling a beam interval in the perpendicular direction to a beam scanning direction between scanning beams out of said laser light sources respectively,

wherein said controller comprises detecting means for detecting scanning positions of a reference beam specified respectively from output beams out of each of said laser light sources, and keeping means for keeping the beam interval between said reference beams in a predetermined value, during recording operation.

4. (previously presented): An optical scanning apparatus adapted to perform simultaneous parallel scanning with a plurality of beams on an image recording medium at predetermined pitches, said apparatus comprising:

two semiconductor laser light sources each including a plurality of light emitting devices arranged in a line at equal intervals;

a beam scanner;

a beam converging unit for converging the light beams onto reflective surfaces of the beam scanner; and

a controller both for individually controlling an inclination angle of an arrangement direction of said light emitting devices in said semiconductor laser light sources with respect to a beam scanning direction and for controlling a relative beam interval distance in the perpendicular direction to the beam scanning direction between reference beams specified respectively from each of said laser light sources, so that all scanning beam intervals on said recording medium are kept equally in a predetermined value, during recording operations.

Claims 5-9 (canceled).

10. (previously presented): An optical scanning apparatus comprising:

a first semiconductor light source including a plurality of light emitting devices arranged in a line at equal intervals;

a second semiconductor light source including a plurality of light emitting devices arranged in a line at equal intervals;

a first controller for individually controlling an inclination angle of an arrangement direction of said light emitting devices with respect to a beam scanning direction of the first and

the second semiconductor light sources respectively so that an interval between scanning portions from each of said semiconductor light sources on a scanning surface becomes a predetermined interval between scanning beams; and

a second controller for controlling a relative interval distance between beams specified respectively from the first semiconductor light source and the second semiconductor light source, so that said interval distance between said beams specified on a scanning surface becomes the predetermined value or a multiple of the predetermined value.

11. (previously presented): The optical scanning apparatus according to claim 10,

wherein all intervals of scanning beams on a recording medium formed by output beams from light emitting devices of both the first semiconductor light source and the second semiconductor light source are equal to each other.